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Coin and Stamp
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

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MASON'S
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VOL. II.

DECEMBER, 1868.

Nos. 9—12.

HISTORY OF U. S. MEDALS,

From 1776 to 1868,
(Including Army, Navy, Presidential,
and Miscellaneous,)

BY E. M., JR.

Our national medals are not only interesting, but instructive; and in presenting a brief history of their origin and appearance, we are carried back to the "days of '76."—to the immortal Washington, who was the first recipient of medalic honors at the hands of a grateful nation.

The medal usually termed "WASHINGTON BEFORE BOSTON," was ordered by the Continental Congress, March, 1776, in the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Congress, in their own name, and in the name of the THIRTEEN UNITED COLONIES whom they represent, be presented to his Excellency, General Washington, and the officers and soldiers under his command, for the wise and spirited conduct in the siege and acquisition of Boston; and that a medal of gold be struck, in commemoration of this great event, and presented to his Excellency; and that a Committee of Three be appointed to prepare a letter of thanks and a proper device for the medal."

The members of the Committee to whose hands were entrusted the above commission, were John Adams, John Jay and Francis Hopkins.

The medal was engraved by an eminent artist named DU VIVIER, in Paris, under the superintendence and direction of Benj. Franklin, who was then representing his country in an official position at the Court of France.

This medal, which was presented to Washington, is, in size, 42 sixteenths, (American scale) of solid gold, and presents, on the obverse, a fine bust of Washington, undraped, with the legend around the border, "GEORGIO WASHINGTON SUPREMO DVCI EXERCITVVM ADSEKTORI LIBERTATIS." Below the bust, COMITIA AMERICANA. Reverse, City of Boston in the distance, to the right the British troops leaving the harbor in vessels; to the left, in the foreground, is Washington, surrounded by his staff officers, while the former is directing attention to the evacuation. On the lower and central ground are drawn up, in battle array, the American troops; while at the extreme right are the entrenchments thrown up by Washington's army. Two large field pieces and a number of cannon balls occupy the right foreground; beneath which is the legend BOSTONIUM RECUPERATUM, XVII MARTI, MDCCCLXXVI. Around the upper portion of the medal is the legend, HOSTIBUS PRIMO FUGATIS.

(To be Continued.)

Reader subscribe for volume 3.

COLLECTING & COLLECTORS.

BY CHARLES G. LELAND.

I.

"Il collectionne."—*Le Figaro*.

I suppose this article will not meet the eye of a single or married person who does not either collect something, or who has not at least one friend who is feebly or forcibly forming a collection.

I say feebly or forcibly. The feeble collector is a man who seldom or never buys—let us say coins, or umbrellas, or pound weights, but if one comes in his way he keeps it. He never undertakes journeys to gather up such gems, or visits museums, but he still likes to have his little collection admired. Once in a while some friend, knowing his small predilection, gives him an addition—*vires crescit eundo*—the collection grows as it goes, he acquires with it a reputation, and rises even unto undeserved celebrity. We have known the feeblest collectors to have magnificent cabinets bequeathed to them on the principle by which Gil Blas inherited the old archbishop's library, simply because that venerable patron of good living thought he had seen his servant reading. Did not my friend Galochius, merely because he was the *only* gentleman smoker of her acquaintance, obtain in fee simple as a free gift from pretty little widow Dotty Dimple, all the magnificent meerschauts, Nargilehs, Hookchas, Chibouquis, cutties, and dudheens left by the late spouse? Dear Dame Dimple! she had no idea of the value of the things—she did not "smoke," but Galochius did; and so this laziest of collectors, who had inanely and in a beddoozled sleepy way got together three or four old pipes, stepped at once into one of the finest lots ever made by mortal man. People have been known to come from Montreal—and there was one, a very large gentleman indeed, who

came all the way from Camden—to visit this Pipothek or Pipæum, which has made a great man of its present possessor. People say he has *added* the Dimple collection to his own. Added! I like that. The French invented a collar, and the English "added" a shirt to it.

As for the positive or forcible collector, he is a character. The energy, time, and money which he expends on forming a collection—forming is the word, for it is never formed, and never brought to an end—are sometimes terrific. I once heard from the most pious authority—a gentleman who was himself a coin collector, yet who would not look at a coin on Sunday, or suffer his visitors to do so—that a friend of his once collected coins with such zeal that his overworked and too-much-excited mind gave way, and he died. Many another man has died of the *amor sceleratus habendi*—of the infamous love of specie—but there are collectors, and collectors of money.

How would you explain to a savage the difference?

It would be idle to attempt within our proposed limits to discuss in full the collecting of coins, which has risen to a separate science in the true meaning of the word—or a *Wissenschaft*. The manuals which guide its devotees, the tables of ancient and modern numismatology—the disquisitions in book form by learned old gentlemen on Persian darics and pine tree shillings, shekels and Belisarius his obolus, beggarly deniers, Mayence kreuzers, sequius and zecchins, dollars and ducats, with the lays and legends thereunto pertaining, would make a library. A true library, by the way, is a collection of a thousand bound volumes.

When the writer was a boy, Jersey plough-pennies and Massachusetts Indian cents, ring-cents, and the like,

passed current at their nominal value. Very conscientious people doubted whether they were really and legitimately worth one cent each. So they called them Bungtowns, and used to nail them to the counter in ignominy, even as crows or hawks were nailed to barn-doors, or the heads of traitors to the Tower of London. And now—*quantum mutatus ab illo!* The Bungtowns have risen to honor and glory—the whole entire North American republic collects cents—there are counterfeits on counterfeits of the rare issues, and it is the dream of most of the smaller geniuses to have a complete series.

We know a gentleman whose coin-collecting has assumed the form *de minimis*—that is to say, he cares for no piece of money which is more than a third of an inch in diameter. Thus he has a Roman gold pseudo, or dollar, such as in Italy are called *farfalle*, or butterflies, from the easy way they have of flying.

"Oh, my golden ducats, say,
Whither have ye flown away?"

He has also the California gold half and quarter dollars, Spanish and South American silver three-cent pieces, English two penny pieces, Arabic forty-cent gold coins, such as oriental damsels string to their ear-rings, and finally the twelfth and sixteenth part of a farthing, standard coins issued by the English mint. Like the crazy half-heller man of the German legend, whose eternal salvation depended on finding a still smaller coin, for which to sell his bottle imp, than any one had seen, he earnestly inquires for money of lesser diameter and lower cost. Should he meet with a spangle which had passed as legal tender in some fairy land of little people over sea, he could calmly close his eyes and pass away. Oh, innocent avarice! Let them say who will: *nullum vitium tetricius quam avaritia* (and Cicero said

it), it seems hard to think that such love of gold is a crime! With the coin collector it is not the figure but the face which fascinates.

THE SILVER COINAGE OF EUROPE.

The Silver Coinage of Europe, it is stated, will, in a short time, be entirely changed. For instance, in France, the coins bearing the impress of the Bourbons and of Louis Philippe, of Napoleon I, and of the Republic, are no longer a legal tender in France since the first of October, but will continue to be received in payment at public offices for some time longer. The coins of the early period of the second empire will also be withdrawn, and only those which bear the Imperial crown will be retained in circulation.

This coinage is being produced in large quantities at the Imperial mint. The measure will extend to the other countries which have assimilated their monetary system with that of France.

Thus, in Belgium, the coins withdrawn are those produced in the reign of Leopold I, and bearing the late King's portrait. In Switzerland and in Italy, the pieces coined prior to a certain date (1863 it is said,) will also be gradually taken out of circulation.

TYPES AND VARIETIES OF U. S. CENTS.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(No. 1.)

1793 CENTS.

The personal objection of Washington to placing his likeness on the national coin, led to the adoption of an ideal head, termed Liberty; and in 1793 the first issue from the U. S. Mint of the regular series of copper coins was struck, bearing the Head of Liberty.

The upper House of Congress pre

sented a bill, that "upon the coins of the United States there should be placed a representation of the head of the President; but owing to the emphatic protestations of Washington, the House of Representatives amended the bill to read, "upon one side of said coins there shall be an impression emblematical of Liberty." The Senate concurred, and the bill placing the Head of Liberty on our coinage became a law.

The first 1793 Cent is supposed to be the so-called "Ameri." Obverse, Head of Liberty with flowing hair. Legend above the head LIBERTY; beneath the bust, 1793. Reverse, 13 links, forming an endless, circular chain, representing the original 13 States. Within the circle ONE CENT, 1-100, in three lines. Around the outer portion of the coin the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERI.

To distinguish the different varieties of the 1793 cents, it is necessary to particularize the points of difference, however minute.

In the first '93 "Ameri," Liberty is represented with a pleasant smile, hair flowing well back to within an eighth of an inch of the edge of coin; the breast bone of the bust very pointed. The figures of the date, and the letters of the word *Liberty*, well expanded. The reverse has the period at the termination of Ameri,—a little distance from the letter I.

The *sterno cleido mastoid* muscle on bust of this date, is very prominent—in this respect differing from all other cents of 1793.

No. 2.—This cent, also termed an Ameri, differs from No. 1 on obverse and reverse. The forehead, on this piece, does not recede at so great an angle as on No. 1, and the lips are more firmly compressed. The hair is shorter and finer, while the lower portion of bust of Liberty is curved. Figures of

date very wide apart, and the only '93 cent possessing this characteristic. Reverse presents the period after the abbreviation AMERI., very close to the I.

No. 3.*—This cent is termed as the former the "Link," or "Chain" '93; while the two preceding coins, although having the same number of links, are usually designated as "'93 Ameri's." The profile of Liberty presents the same compression of the lips as No. 2. The hair is thick, and flows back very nearly to the edge of the coin; lower part of the bust a trifle more curved than No. 2. The figures of date close and rather clumsily executed. Letters of the word LIBERTY close—in this respect differing from Nos. 1 and 2.

Reverse, 13 links, as in Nos. 1 and 2, differing from the two latter in the legend only, which reads: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—having the latter word in full.†

(To be Continued.)

THE RANDALL COIN SALE.

The collection of coins, medals, &c., owned by J. Colvin Randall, Esq., of this city, was sold at public auction, at the capacious rooms of Thos. Birch & Son, Chestnut St., this City, on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, Oct. 28th and 29th, according to previous announcement in this journal.

To say the sale was well attended, bidding spirited, and a great success, *pecuniarily* speaking, would be a brief and truthful account of the affair; but as a coin sale, it was more than usually interesting, from the fact that a number of pieces were sold never before offered at public sale, and several excessively

* There are 4 different varieties of the *obverse* of this cent, each having the word AMERICA in full on reverse.

† All the 1793 *link* or *chain* cents have the stars and stripes around the edges.

rare and fine coins were included among the "gems" of the collection.

Between 2 and 3 P. M., Wednesday, (first day of sale,) the bidders rapidly congregated; and as we looked around upon the multitude, and scanned the faces of those present, we could but notice the circumstance that has been forced upon our attention, at all sales of this character, and that is, the respectability of the crowd invariably in attendance upon coin sales.

Many strange faces were scattered through the rows of well known numismatists. There, at the counter, spectated, pencil in hand, sat our inevitable friend and brother Coin Dealer, Mr. Cogan, whose face is as welcome in Philadelphia as would be that of the President elect, Gen. Grant—and whose jovial, good nature always keeps the audience in a pleasant and enjoyable humor.

Among those present were the well-known collectors, R. C. Davis, Wm. Fewsmith, A. M., Dr. Dickeson, Kline, Wells, Campbell, Ralston, (recently returned from Europe,) Martin, (he of the Post Office,) Mahoney, Jenks, Jackson, Petrie, (of *Hotel renown*,) Roberts, Jones, (*the numismatic author*.) Porter, Alexander, "Moneta," Moore, Leutze, Snyder, (he of the Reading R. R.) and the welcome and inevitable "Cash," (*he of the Treasury Department*)

Of those represented by Messrs. Cogan, Mason and Kline, we caught the names Harris, Sanford, Elliott, Ufford, Bailey, Bohea, Stablien, Duncan, Clark, Phillips, Rust, Abbott, Emerson, Payfer, Wilder, Mott, Hennessy, Gschwend, Cook, Barnhard, Marshall, Bates, Oram, Keeney, Dawley, Porter, Converse, Steel, Bollar, Sellers, Winsor, Birch, and some half dozen others.

The sale was well conducted by the elder Birch (one of the best Auctioneers in America,) and the bidding very

lively, especially on the rare pattern pieces.

The following prices were obtained for some of the most important pieces, viz:—

1794 Dollar,	. . . .	\$42 00
1838 " . . . .	. . . .	35 00
1839 " . . . .	. . . .	35 00
1851 " . . . .	. . . .	45 00
1852 " . . . .	. . . .	41 00
1792 Half Disme,	. . . .	24 00
1793 Cent,	. . . .	9 75
1795 Half Dime,	. . . .	12 00
1799 Cent,	. . . .	15 50

The excitement of the sale was concentrated on lots 584 to 588—Excessively rare pattern Five-cent pieces.

The following prices were obtained:—lot 584, \$16; lot 585, \$17; lot 586, \$21; lot 587, \$4; lot 588, \$5.

The U. S. Mint was represented at the sale, but was outbid by private collectors, who can afford to buy rare U.S. coins to complete their series.

A little amusement serves to make a sale attractive,—and this sale could not pass off without a joke or two, perpetrated by the wits who will manage to mix in among the scientific and sedate numismatic savans.

When lot 620 was offered, as a "Vermontensium, with 6 trees," one of the audience remarked that the author of the Catalogue had made a mistake, as the coin contained 7 *trees*. The latter immediately retorted, "6 trees and a bush!" "What kind of a *bush*?" asked the auctioneer. "A *birch*," was the quick rejoinder.

Again, when lot 621 to 623, "3 *Vermont Auctori's*, 1787," was handed up, the clerk remarked, as he read the inscription on the coins, "No. 621, '2, '3 is a lot of vermin!" mistaking and mispronouncing the abbreviated *Vermont*. One gentleman asked if this was a sale of insects, as he had no such *vermin* in

his collection, and did not wish to purchase.

A hearty laugh greeted this little episode, and the sale proceeded, and on the second day, Thursday, at 5 P. M., ended to the satisfaction of the owner, auctioneer, clerks and attendants.

COLLECTING & COLLECTORS.

II.

BY CHARLES G. LELAND.

STAMPS.

A mania for collecting, principally confined to very young people, is that of postage stamps. One reason for this is, that it is a mania easily indulged in, as every one who receives foreign letters can bestow on Johnny or Susy something which will adorn their albums, or which by the quantity may be "traded off" for one rare and desirable stamp. Again, several stamps which have been used may be exchanged for one which has not been defiled by postal service.

In stamp collecting there are different genera. There is the mythical collector in Germany, who has been promised the hand of a beautiful young lady when he shall have collected one million stamps from old letters, and with him are his imitators, who get all they can where-with to paper rooms. Some simply form pictures with them. They are the faded ghosts of money; they were once really worth two, three, or ten cents each; a rascal *might* by chemistry or paint *possibly* make money of them yet, and therefore they are "interesting." But it has been ascertained of late that there is a new species of postage-stamp collectors in the East. The *Pall Mall Gazette* says:

"Thanks to a public appeal by Pastor Manrach, in Livonia, we have at last learned what becomes of the postage stamps, and to what end the thousands

of aged and youthful collectors are in the habit of plaguing our lives out. It appears then that the Chinese have contracted the habit or passion of covering their umbrellas and rooms, and everything, in short, with old European stamps, and buy them by the thousands and millions. The Rhenish Mission, which has a station in China, collects these stamps, and sells them at three shillings the thousand.

The first Oriental collector of stamps was a young native beauty in one of the Oceanic isles. A naval officer was one day amazed by her entrance into his tent, stuck all over from top to toe with the stamps which she had purloined from his desk. There was a merry ring of complacent laughter from the dusky Oriana as she exhibited her collection; there was a howl of wrath from the officer, and Oriana ran. Great was the chase, in which sailors and natives joined; it lasted for miles; down hill and along the sandy shore under nodding palm trees. Horror of horrors! She is about to take to the surf which comes thundering in thirty feet high—no—she takes to the inland! Ha! she wearies—from the other side up pops amid the ferns a tattooed chief with shell earrings—he grins and heads her off, waving his arms high in air—she is conquered—*cavet*—she caves! They lay her down kicking and screeching over a log—they peel off the precious stamps one by one, and as she is tolerably warm with the run, they come off easily—and Oriana is amazed to learn that they cost forty pounds and are worth a drove of hogs—and three girls like herself.

I say three at a guess, not knowing the current rates of the Oceanic markets.

In 1862 postage stamps were our only small money. Then according to Orpheus C. Kerr, young ladies were also valued in the United States by postage

stamps. People spoke of damsels as being worth five hundred thousand stamps. This was not much when the stamps were penny ones, those of the red kind made it \$15,000 which, in that period of depression and low prices, rendered the possessor an object of interest to Government clerks and to some unmarried Congressmen. Hence it came that money was called stamps—which, by the way, accounts for the origin of that beautiful song :

Father, dear father, come down with the stamps,
My milliner's bill is unpaid.

About that time a seampish genius sent through the post-circulars stating that for twenty-five cents he would send a beautifully-engraved steel-line portrait of Andrew Jackson, in the highest style of art, and for fifty cents a portrait of Washington. Those who remitted the quarter were faithfully supplied with a two-cent stamp, while the halves elicited a three.

At one time the Turkish government was greatly preplexed with the letter-stamp question. The Sultan had begun to collect and desired that his national postage-marks should be the finest in the world. So the Divan assembled :

Perturbabantur Constantinopolitanis
Innumerabilibus solitudinibus.

The result of the deliberation was, that no pains or expense should be spared ; and it may be worth while for collectors to know that the Turkish stamps are the finest in the world.

Very neat little albums are made for stamp-collectors—the national flag of each nation being printed in colors at the top of each page. The mania extends all over the world, and for such issues as have become obsolete very high prices are paid. Here, too, the counterfeiter has been at work, and as comparatively few who collect in this branch are accurate connoisseurs, every-

body is easily supplied. Confederate postage stamps may, however, be readily distinguished from their imitations—the latter being far superior, as regards execution, to the originals—the same being true of the “currency.”

HISTORY OF U. S. PATTERN PIECES,

With their Fictitious Value.

BY E. M., JR.

(*Continued.*)

Obverse, legend, CALIFORNIA MODEL DOLLAR, 1849. Reverse, eagle and shield surrounded by stars ; shape and size similar to the gold dollars from Philadelphia Mint. These dollars were struck at the San Francisco Mint ; but not being approved by the “Master Mint,” were not circulated ; hence the name, “Model Dollars,” or “pattern pieces.”

There was also struck a “California Model Half Dollar,” of same appearance as the dollar ; but the United States Government never issued, or sanctioned the issue, of a gold piece of a less denomination than one dollar.

California gold halves and quarters, of a later date, were issued by private parties as a speculation—differing somewhat in appearance from the “Model” pieces, and of considerable less intrinsic value than the coins represent.

We refer to these California coins that the reader may distinguish the difference between the *true* “Patterns” and those usually classed or represented as such.

In 1849 there was struck at the U. S. Mint, a trial Three-cent piece, in silver. Obverse, same as the Half Dime of this year ; date 1859. Reverse, III, with plain border.

Also, silver Three-cent piece with same obverse as the preceding, and on reverse, the figure 3 ; and a “Mule” Three-cent piece, in silver, struck, bearing the reverse dies of the former two.

Varieties of these patterns are found in the *metal* only.

No. 1. as above described, is valued at \$5. No. 2, at \$3 50. No. 3, at \$5. Varieties in metal: Nickel, \$3. Copper, \$3 50.

GOLD RING DOLLAR of 1849. This piece bears a resemblance to the Chinese coins, having a square hole in the centre.

NOTE.—We shall omit, in future numbers, the numberless pieces struck from the dies of the regular series of gold, silver, copper and nickel coins—such as copper and brass dollars, halves, dimes, half-dimes, &c. These pieces are not, properly speaking, "Patterns," but might be truthfully termed "Trial Pieces," as they are usually struck when testing the quality and temper of the dies.

(*To be Continued.*)

HOBBIES.

Nothing sweetens life so much as a hobby. As an ingredient in human happiness, it comes next to the possession of a quiet conscience. It matters not much what it is, whether its object be old coins, books, autographs, postage stamps, birds, insects, keys, pens, old china, paintings, eggs, minerals, relics, curiosities and what not,—its effect is the same.

A man or woman, boy or girl, with a hobby, is ennui-proof. They can snap their fingers at the aimlessness and listlessness which creep even into lives that are both useful and professional. All their leisure hours acquire a point and purpose. Released from their daily drudgery, they can potter over old bookstalls and coin stands, pore over the old, rusty coppers and musty MSS.; stain their fingers with acids, climb over rocks and tramp through forests in search of the precious specimens, without finding one moment hang heavy on their hands.

The record of their days shows, not merely "something gained, something done," but, over and above, something

enjoyed as only an enthusiast can enjoy it, something added to their store of pure and legitimate pleasure.

And though some hobbies are less portable than others, the great advantage of a hobby is, that one can usually carry it with him; and with it a fund of inexhaustible interest wherever he goes. His friend, the rector, may be dull, but the parish church is a friend of whom he never tires. Young ladies may be insipid, but the comparative merits of his specimens, and the completeness of his series, are subjects which can always pleasantly engage his thoughts. When he travels, the Museum or the Picture Gallery is not a mere place to lounge away an hour in. In such places, if art be his specialty, he is on enchanted ground—in a fairy palace, into the subtle charm of which none but the initiated, like himself, can enter.

Whatever be the nature of the hobby—and some hobbies, of course, are more elevating than others—the effect of all, so far as individual happiness is concerned, is the same: to provide a stream of pleasure which shall run, as it were, in a parallel line with the stream of a man's work.

The grand point is to get a hobby—what specific form it assumes, is a matter of secondary importance. Only let it be innocent, and, considering the peculiar frailty of the hobby rider, let us add, not too expensive.

AUTOGRAPH HUNTERS.

BY FANNY FERN.

If there is an intolerable nuisance, it is your persistent autograph hunter—your man or woman who keeps a stereotyped formula of compliment on hand, "their collection not complete without your distinguished name," etc.; sending it all over the country, to eminent and notorious individuals alike, to swell their

precious "collection," as they call it. Now, in the outset, I wish to except requests for this purpose from personal friends, to whom it is always a pleasure to say Yes,—but to those who torment you from mercenary motives, or from mere curiosity, as they would to bottle up an old insect for their shelf, to amuse an idle hour, I confess to little sympathy. Nay, more, I am unprincipled enough, having long been a martyr, always to pocket the stamp they send, and throw the request in the waste-paper basket.

I can conceive that invalids, or very young school boys or girls, might amuse themselves in this manner; but how a sane adult, in the rush and hurry and turmoil of the maelstrom-life of 1868, can find a moment for it, is beyond my comprehension. Now, a lock of hair has some significance—at least, I hope that man thought so who received from me a curl clipped from a poodle dog, which at this moment may be labelled with my name. It will be all the same a hundred years hence, as I remarked when I forwarded it.—*New York Ledger*, Nov. 14th.

[In reply to the fastidious Fanny, we feel a delicacy in using the cudgel, as we should upon a masculine biped, guilty of such unscientific and unladylike language as the above. Why, bless your antiquated heart, Autograph Collectors are gentlemen of high social standing, and the science of Autography is as important and useful as any other science that you can lay your delicate dexter fingers upon.

Where the history of our great men, if it were not for the autograph hunters? Ask the historian, what his first move in compiling the events of a public man's life, and he will say, show me his letters—let me peruse and examine his MSS. Ask your beloved Parton, Fanny, where he gets his information for history, (bi-

ography and autobiography.) and he will answer you, *from Autograph collectors*.

Ah, Fanny! you should correct your clirography, and not be ashamed to send a "Fern leaf" to those indefatigable, honest, and scientific collectors of Autographs, who bore you with their constant drilling for signatures and letters. To think of one of *our ilk* asking for *bread* and receiving a *stone*; or an autograph, and getting a lock of dog's hair.

We could expect no more from a *dog*, but to think, Fanny—*our Fanny*—who has entertained us, and shortened many a dreary winter's eve by her witty and sarcastic vaporings, should condescend to ridicule autograph hunters, is a step we cannot think *seriously* taken.—Ed.]

THE '93 CENTS.

We have already received *sixteen fac similes* of genuine '93 Cents, each differing from the other,—and as we plunge into the difficult task of giving *all* the types and varieties, we feel confident we shall be aided by our friends in making the list as full and complete as possible. Send us rubbings of your '93's. Let our readers and subscribers share with us the honor of rescuing from oblivion the history of our national coinage.

The different numismatic associations of the country are at work, with commendable zeal, upon the subject of the '93's; and our friend and fellow numismatist, J. N. T. Levick, Esq., of New York,—than whom, in devotion to Numismatics, there is none more able and willing—we learn, is preparing a table for publication in the *N. Y. Journal of Numismatics*, showing the value and varieties of the 1793 cent.

On with the noble work, and let the world know that we feel sufficient interest in the coins of our country, to write up and make known their history.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Philada., Nov. 15th, 1868.

MASON & Co.,

Publishers of *Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine* :

Gentlemen: Believing that a change in the publication of the first numbers of the Magazine, from April to January, will be an advantage mutually beneficial to publishers and subscribers: and wishing to obtain an expression of opinion in reference to the matter from yourselves, we present this request, in the strong hope that you may consider it advisable to date your next volume from Jan. 1st, 1869, instead of April following.

We would also suggest the propriety, on the part of the publishers, of enlarging and illustrating the Magazine, at an early day, thereby increasing its subscription list, and enlarging the sphere of its usefulness.

Very respectfully yours,

Robert C. Davis,

J. Colvin Randall.

Wm. Few Smith.

M. W. Dickeson, M. D.

George H. Wells.

Thomas Martin.

Wm. H. Nevil.

[REPLY.]

In answer to the above suggestion, and in reply to several other communications received during the past few weeks, upon the same subject, we would simply state, that we intended presenting this matter to our patrons, in the First Volume, with a wish to change the commencement of the Second Volume to January; but we were overruled by the objections of our subscribers, and have thus continued dating the commencement from April.

With this number, we have changed the "order of things," and combine the concluding numbers,—December, Janu-

ary, February and March,—into one number: thus, by a *coup de etat*, ending the second volume of this Magazine! Our readers will not lose by this change, as we have given the full complement of reading matter in this combination, and exerted ourselves to present varied and acceptable articles for the readers edification.

We have also maintained uniformity in the dating and numbering of the different magazines, that the Second Volume, when bound, may not differ from the First.

We expect a great many complaints from those who want their "pound of flesh," at this "flank movement" upon our part. With even these drawbacks, we think the Magazine will continue to prosper as heretofore.

In reference to "enlarging and illustrating," we would respectfully reply, that it is, and has been, our wish to make this work, in size, as large as *Harper's Monthly Magazine*—and our thoughts by day, and our dreams by night, are full of the pretty numismatic pictures we expect, one day (not far distant), to see peeping forth from every page of this little work. A few more subscribers will enable us to accomplish something towards the fulfillment of our "great expectations."—ED.

UNPUBLISHED LETTER OF WASHINGTON'S.

The following letter from General Washington to Colonel Hamilton, we are assured, has never before been published. It was delivered to the latter soon after his retirement from the Treasury Department:

"MOUNT VERNON, July 12, 1795.

"MY DEAR SIR: This letter will be placed in your hands by a nephew of mine, Colonel Wm. Augustine Washington, who will take New York in

his way to Boston with a view of fixing his two sons at the Andover Academy. Any kindness you may show him will gratify me.

"I thank you for improvement of my rough notes. They read now as I would have them. I shall enclose you the other manuscripts next week. Present me to Mrs. Hamilton. Your affectionate friend,

"GEO. WASHINGTON."

No new sovereigns were coined in England in 1867; a circumstance which has not happened for years. No half crowns have been coined since 1851; 992,795 half sovereigns were coined in 1867, and 423,720 florins, but both of these are much smaller numbers than usual: 2,166,120 shillings were coined, 1,362,240 sixpences (both numbers much below the average,) 4,158 fourpences (an invariable number year after year,) 718,288 silver threepences, and the usual 4,752 silver twopences and 7,920 silver pence. The copper coinage of 1867 consisted 5,483,520 pence, 2,508,800 halfpence, and 5,017,600 farthings. Thus nearly 19,000,000 pieces of money were issued from the mint in 1867, a year in which the amount of coinage was extraordinary small.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE.

J. S. R., CHENANGO, N.Y.—Your six varieties of 1793 cents received, and an important addition is made to our series of these interesting and valuable coins.

P. L., NEW HAVEN, CT.—Many thanks for assistance in compiling our history of varieties. Illustrations are very expensive, yet we hope to be able to present each subscriber with a chart of cuts, or photograph of the series as we progress with each date.

L. S., T. R. JR., P. P. R. and others—We reiterate our acknowledgments and thanks for rubbings, impressions, and originals, of '93 cents.

J. A. S., ALLENTOWN.—Obliged for the rubbings of your chain 93's; also your specimens of '93 Wreath and Liberty Caps. The 1795 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, will come in the Half-cent series after the completion of the '93 cents.

J. B. C., ST. LOUIS.—Order for boxes, and coins attended to and forwarded. Send us rubbings of your '93 cents, and $\frac{1}{2}$ cents.

A. W. Y., MIDDLETOWN.—The stamp priced catalogue will soon be completed. Arrangements will be made to comply with your request. We are as anxious to give "illustrations of the Postage Stamps of the world" as you or our Philatelic friends, and when our partner takes his seat in the Philatelic chair—editorial—you will see a change for the better.

R. T., BOSTON.—You can get 3,000 stamps, and perhaps 4,000, if you collect all the "water marks," perforations, "shades," &c. 1500 different stamps is considered a good collection. Lallier's album, latest edition, is as good a foreign work as we can recommend. Appleton of N. Y. published an illustrated album, with maps, flags, &c. We keep an assortment from \$1, to \$10, each.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

All subscriptions, hereafter, must date from January 1st of each year. The terms are as usual: \$1 50 per annum, in advance; \$1 for six months; and 50 cts. for three months. Single copies 25 cts. Specimen copies free, upon receipt of a stamp for postage.

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

We hope our patrons will not delay subscriptions for volume third.

COLLECTING & COLLECTORS.

III.

BY CHARLS G. LELAND.

PICTURES.

The subject of picture-collecting is so vast, that the idea of attempting to frame it within the limits of an "article" is absurd. Yet the principles on which it should be based may be briefly stated, although I do not remember during the perusal of several hundred works on æsthetics and art to have ever seen them set forth.

There are in short two kinds of collecting in pictures. One is that of the picture-dealer and amateur, the other that of the man who has studied art and literature historically. It is needless to say that the majority of collectors belong to the first class mentioned.

The intelligent collector invariably knows the characteristics of every school of architecture and art, with their subdivisions. He can tell at a glance all the shades of the Romanesque or Transition era—Byzantine, Lombard, Norman and Saxon, and can follow them through the glorious Ogival age, which swept in splendor over their remains, raising in churches or castles the pointed over their round arches. With them he knows the corresponding schools of painting which filled with mosaic or encaustic, with Limoge enamels or distemper, their chapels and porches. He knows all the lesser arts corresponding to these great changes, and is familiar with Labarthe, the *Moyen Age et la Renaissance*, Maryatt's *Handbook*, and the like, and can distinguish not only "between a postillion's jack-boot and an Etruscan vase, but between the small wares and ornaments of any era, for he has learned in architecture the peculiar lines which determine the shape and tone of everything made in the corresponding age.

Contrasted with this collector, who proceeds on a basis of sound knowledge, we have the *empiric*—the man who has simply by personal experience, and by scouring many galleries, picture shops auctions, and studios, picked up a merely practical knowledge of highly poetical art. He knows a Ruysdael landscape because Ruysdael sets forth certain subjects, and employed certain shades and proportions of color, which resolve themselves in his mind (though he may not know it), to the merely chemical qualities of the paints and oils employed and their "spread." Of Ruysdael, as analyzed by Goethe, and the subtle allegories in his composition, as in Salvator Rosa's or Lionardo's he knows nothing. It is true that the empiric collector, by sheer industry and much running about, often collects a vast mass of knowledge of details—as he has need to, for he is always liable to be cheated by any artist manufacturer of antiques who knows a little more than he does. For this reason he often cuts the old masters altogether—especially of late years, since the progress of scholarship has rendered much reading absolutely indispensable—and takes refuge in pictures painted by great moderns, of whose personal acquaintance he is immensely proud.

The empiric collector is a conceited gentleman, of small learning, who, having outlived the stormy follies of his "heady youth," as Kenelm Digby called them, finds a new and absorbing passion in buying pictures. He roams from Vienna to London, and though he may spend tens of thousands annually, is always mad for bargains. He expects to pay his boot-maker, his tailor, a fair market price—but to really enjoy a *picture* it must be purchased for less than it is worth. This is, however, a common weakness. I have found that invariably nine men out of ten whose early education had been neglected, in showing

guests over their houses and carefully specifying the enormous prices they had paid for curtains and carpets, manifested a corresponding pride in being able to state that the fine picture in their parlor had been obtained by some adroit trickery or shrewd influence for much less than the artist originally demanded.

I do not here propose to set forth the wretched litany of picture-dealer tricks, and tell the stories of forged old masters and mock Murillos, which abound in art journals. But I will deal with the great fundamental humbug which lies at the root of it all—the absurd assumption that perfect copies of great works—"not to be distinguished from the originals"—are sold everywhere at low or even high prices. A man who can produce an *absolutely* good copy of a great artist is as rare as one who produced the original. In Raffaele's time—the golden age of art—there lived but one man who could produce a good copy of his works. Lionardo de Vinci had but one Luini, and yet people will have us believe that every bric-a-brac Jew has whole galleries of absolutely accurate forgeries. Twenty years ago it was said in Europe that there were not six good copyists on the whole continent. I do not know how many there are at present. Somebody in Madrid is said to possess a really good copy of the Cenci, and I hear that a capital copy of Couture's *Decadence Romaine* has just arrived in New York. W. Page can really copy a Titian—he might possibly forge one which would pass for an original—observe, I speak here simply and solely of mechanical skill, for it is a very doubtful sort of compliment to leave *in nubibus*.

Collections formed by empirics without a real æsthetic education, by men who are illiterate as to the general history of art, often contain works of real value, for a tremendous price, boldly

given at an auction for some unquestioned historical gem, or to some really great artist on an order, will of course secure a fine picture. Unfortunately, the inability of the empiric to detect the soul and symbolism of an old master reduces him to mere mechanical, Jew picture, dealing *experience* (whence the word *empiric* in this relation.) This goes far—but there are cheating painters who go further, and when we add to this the old gentleman's mania for nosing and poking about in old junk shops for wonderful bargains, it is not remarkable that he is often cheated. Hence it comes that collections made by such men at great cost, which pass for fine in their day, are regarded as poor stuff by the next generation. The Rubens becomes doubtful; its colors, which were supposed to have lasted unchanged for nearly two centuries, suddenly change in a few years to dull, confused tints. And then the multitude look at the pictures and murmur and declare that the old masters were old humbugs.

Very different is the æsthetic collector, who is penetrated with the spirit of every period of history, with its developments in architecture, painting, sculpture, music, ornaments, metal work, illuminations, and dress, and who has thought long and earnestly on their affinities. He buys a picture, being attracted by its innate characteristics, and intuitively approaches its real value simply by the degree to which it was valued when created. Empiric Smith shows you a superb picture representing the legend of—let us say—Santa Barbara—by, let us say, Hans Hemling. Smith has not the remotest idea of the legends of Santa Barbara, or of the strange, sweet, wild mystery which attaches to the life of Hemling, or the dreamy, beautiful Gothic tales which are told of that artist. If he has read them or heard them they are "some of those

old stories, you know " and do not interest him. Like many modern so called artists, he cares very little for the subject, so that "a good picture" is the result. And yet Mr. Empiric Smith sets up for a critic and a scholar in art. I know one of the tribe who has spent a large fortune on pictures, not one of which he really understands, and on all of which he will lecture by the hour as to "breadth," "tone," and all the connoisseur slang—which has been charmingly laid down in a clever little German satire, "*Ueber die kunst ein kunstkenner zu werden*" or something of the kind.

There are in their way, and by the way, as many Empiric Smiths among artists as among collectors. They may be known, "the ones as the others," by their inability to discourse sensibly on any subject except pictures.

The curse of collecting, as of painting, at the present day, is that mechanical execution in most cases is the only thing aimed at or cared for, while symbolism, subject, or poetry go for nothing. A poet who is no scholar is no poet, while the artist who is either is a *rara avis*.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 9.

1795 half-cents are sometimes altered to resemble 1796 half-cents. They may always be known by the figures, 7 and 5 on the former pieces being smaller than the 1 and the 9, whereas on genuine '96 half-cents, the figures are all of the same size. Alleged 1831 half-cents, but altered from 1834 may be similarly detected, the latter date being of larger size than the former, which is the same size as that of 1832. The figures on the half cent of 1836 are also of the same size as those on the '32. The 40's from 1840 to 1847

inclusive are of small size, a shade larger than the 1854 halves. But the 1848's and 1852's are large like the large 1849's and the 1853's. The small date 1849 has smaller figures than any other U. S. copper coin, and approaches more nearly than any other half-cent to the character of a pattern. But there are really *no pattern U. S. half-cents*.

A singularity is presented in a variety of the cent of 1826. Three of the stars to the right of the head, are not formed like the rest, but look like three sticks laid across each other, at equal distances.

The variety of 1800 cent mentioned in my third article, does not show any trace of a 9 under the last figure. Judging from the carelessness shown on a number of our coins about this time, it has appeared to me probable that the cent is not an everstrike but a most tremendous blunder. The designer had been accustomed to making 179, for years. He did so again, and then it would seem suddenly realized that another century had opened. He accordingly did the best he could, that is, made an 8 over the 7 and an 0 over the 9. Can any one substantiate or disprove this suggestion. ? \$

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov., 1867.—Continued.

PART I. *American Series.*

Cent, 1854. Snowden says this Cent is composed of 95 per cent, copper, 4 zinc, and 1 tin, and is the rarest of the Pattern Cents of this period, being almost unique. \$1 87.

Cent, 1854, head of Liberty; bronze, proof, scarce. 62c.

Flying Eagle Cent, 1855; 80 per

cent. copper, 20 nickel; condemned as being too hard; fine proof, rare. \$1 00.

Flying Eagle Cent, 1855; 90 per cent. copper, 10 nickel; fine proof, rare. \$1 38.

Flying Eagle Cent, 1855; 95 per cent. copper, 5 tin, 1 zinc; splendid proof, rare. \$1 75.

Flying Eagle Cent, 1855; slight difference in proportion of metals; fine proof, rare. \$1 00.

Flying Eagle Cent, 1855; nearly pure copper, brilliant proof. \$1 50.

Quarter-Dollar, 1856, base metal. 5c.

Cent, 1856; $\frac{7}{8}$ copper, $\frac{1}{8}$ nickel, "struck with Half-Cent die for want of time to get up a proper die;" splendid proof, rare. \$4 25.

Nickel Cent, 1856; fine proof, scarce. \$1 50.

Duplicate of the last, equally fine. \$1 00.

Cent, 1856, nickel size, struck in copper; brilliant proof, rare. \$4 00.

Cent, 1856, nickel size, in copper, struck before the obverse die was finished, lacking the legend and date; perhaps unique, certainly of great rarity, proof. \$2 00.

Cent, 1859, struck in a metal resembling silver; fine proof, extremely rare. This piece must be distinguished from all others, as its composition is quite unlike either of them. \$1 75.

A fine piece of lathe work, executed at the mint, being the reverse of the Nickel Cent of 1856, on a square piece of brass; size 19, unique. 50c.

Another fine piece of lathe work, on a thick circular planchet of brass, of Half-Dollar size, being the obverse and reverse of the Quarter-Dollar; the obverse copied from the die before the stars and date were inserted. 50c.

Half-Dollar, 1857, a large percentage aluminum; fine rare. 50c.

Cent, 1857; obv. head of Liberty: rev. "One Cent;" nickel, proof, rare. \$2 25.

Quarter-Dollar, 1858; struck in brass, unique. 50c.

Cent, 1858; obv. flying eagle; rev. oak wreath and shield; nickel, planchet a full size larger than ordinary; brilliant proof, very rare. \$1 62.

[The following set, twelve pieces, all fine proofs, in nickel, are now rare.]

Cent, 1858; large eagle, oak wreath and shield.

Cent, 1858: large eagle, oak wreath without shield.

Cent, 1858; large eagle, laurel wreath.

Cent, 1858; large eagle, tobacco wreath.

Cent, 1858; Indian head, oak wreath and shield.

Cent, 1858; Indian head, oak wreath without shield.

Cent, 1858; Indian head, laurel wreath.

Cent, 1858; Indian head, tobacco wreath.

Cent, 1858; small eagle, oak wreath and shield.

Cent, 1858; small eagle, oak wreath without shield.

Cent, 1858; small eagle, laurel wreath.

Cent, 1858; small eagle, tobacco wreath.

Per set, \$17 50.

Half-Dollar, 1859, beautiful head of Liberty, by Longacre; rev. "50 cents;" brilliant proof in silver. \$2 00.

Obv. same; rev. " $\frac{1}{2}$ dollar" within a wreath; silver, brilliant proof. \$2.

Obv. same; rev. "Half-Dollar" within a wreath; brilliant proof, silver. \$2 00.

Obv. Liberty seated; rev. an eagle, "United States of America, Half-Dollar," dies by Paquet; silver, proof. \$2 00.

Half-Dollar, 1859; a set of four pieces. Like the four last described, all brilliant proofs in copper, rare. 65c.

Cent, 1859, nickel size; bright proof

in copper, very rare. \$1 62.

Cent, 1859 ; rev. oak wreath and broad shield ; nickel, proof, rare. \$1 38.

Cent, 1859 ; rev. wreath and narrow shield ; nickel, proof, rare. \$1 62.

Quarter-Eagle of 1860 ; obv. head of Liberty ; rev. "2½ dollars ;" copper, proof, a very rare piece. 75c.

Half-Dollar, 1862, Liberty seated ; rev. eagle, "God Our Trust" on the field ; splendid proof, in silver, rare. \$4 50.

Half-Dollar, 1862 ; rev. "God Our Trust" on a label ; splendid proof in silver, rare. \$4 00.

Eagle, 1862 ; "God Our Trust" on the field ; bronze, proof, rare. \$2 00.

Eagle, 1862 ; "God Our Trust" on a label ; bronze, proof, rare. \$2 00.

Two Cent Piece, 1863 ; obv. head of Washington, "God and our Country ;" copper, brilliant proof, rare. \$2 12.

Two Cent Piece, 1863 ; "God Our Trust" copper, splendid proof. \$1 62.

Bronze Cent, 1863, on thick planchet ; fine proof. 87c.

Planchet for Bronze Cent. 5c.

Nickel Cent, 1864 ; splendid proof. 25c.

Bronze Cent, 1864 ; splendid proof, thin planchet. \$1 50.

Two Cent Piece, 1864 ; "In God we Trust ;" copper, brilliant proof. \$1 50.

Two Cent Piece, 1864, motto in small letters ; nearly proof, rare. \$1 50.

Five Cent Piece, 1865 ; nickel, proof. 20c.

Three Cent Piece, 1865 ; nickel, proof. \$1 25.

COLONIALS, COINS OF THE CONFEDERATION, &C.

New England Shilling ; obv. "N. E. ;" rev. "XII.," on planchet of very large size ; extremely rare, and fine. \$21 00.

New England Shilling ; obverse and reverse like the last, but from distinct dies. \$22 00.

New England Shilling, intermediate in size between the last two, fine condition, differing in type from either. \$20 00.

New England Sixpence ; obv. "N. E. ;" rev. "VI. ;" one of the rarest coins in the Colonial series ; very fine. \$67 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1650 ; tree with four branches on each side, twigs all pointing upwards ; very fine. \$52 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1650 ; the tree of very small size, with but two branches on a side, differs materially from any other type, both in the tree and style of lettering ; very fine. \$52 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1650 ; in this piece the tree is very slender, with four slim branches on each side, the six lower branches bearing one or more cones each ; the outer and inner circles, on both sides, have large dots placed far apart ; planchet extra size ; very fine. \$50 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652 ; tall, graceful tree, with many branches ; the peculiarity of this type is, that a portion of the N's in the legend, are reversed, while the others are correctly made ; very fine. \$13 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, large oval tree, 1652, seven branches on each side, trunk appears as if hollow, or split ; on the reverse, Ne in New, combined in one character ; uncirculated, large planchet. \$12 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652 ; small tree, with seven branches on each side, planchet of the largest size ; very fine. \$14 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652 ; in general type resembling the last, but a fracture in the die makes it a marked variety. \$8 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652 ; the dots in the circle very large, termed by Mr. Mickley the cog-wheel pattern. The legend in ornamental letters ; remarkably fine. \$20 00.

ANOTHER N. Y. COIN SALE.

We learn from a private source that the Curtis' Coin Collection—from the "Curiosity shop," Broadway, N. Y., has passed into the hands of a prominent Coin Dealer, and will be offered at public sale, as soon as it can be catalogued—perhaps ere the New Year dawns. If we can obtain catalogues, each subscriber will get one in time to send in bids for the sale. Many of the coins are fine, and the different American series of gold, silver and copper, very complete.

STILL ANOTHER SALE!

Mackensie's celebrated Coin Collection, we hear from a good source, will be sold in New York early next year.

THE COIN EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

To enable collectors to exchange coins through the office of this *Journal*, we have opened a "Coin Exchange Department," to be governed by the following regulations:

1st.—Any collector having duplicates of coins, medals, autographs, or anything appertaining to the objects upon which this *Journal* treats, can send descriptions, rubbings, or whatever will best explain the articles possessed, to this office, with the address in full of party desiring to make exchanges; and the coin, book, autograph, stamp, etc., will be placed under appropriate headings and advertised by us in the next issue, *free of expense*.

2nd.—Advertisers should state what coin or other article is wanted (in exchange) to complete their series; also state condition of articles offered and articles wanted, and all necessary particulars.

3rd.—All letters referring to exchanges, must be addressed to this office, and contain a 3c. stamp for forwarding and completing the exchanges.

4th.—Rare and valuable coins must be enclosed in a registered letter, when exchanges are being made; in such cases only, are we responsible. All ordinary coins, etc., of less than \$1 in value may be exchanged, at our risk; being properly secured in a letter and postage pre-paid in full.

5th.—Collections of stamps, autographs, minerals, books, etc., can be offered for sale through this department and when a sale is effected, the previous owner of collection will be charged five per cent. on amount realised to defray expenses of advertising, correspondence, postage, etc.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR AN EXCHANGE.
Messrs. Mason & Co.,

Gents: I have a duplicate 1799 cent, in fair condition, date plain, which I will exchange for a fine 1809 cent. Also extra good U. S. Cents of dates, 1796, 1800, 1805, 1808, 1811, which I will exchange for U. S. Cent of 1793, in good condition; and an 1856 Nickel cent, good, for an 1858 Nickel (Indian head) cent in equal condition.

Yours &c., JOHN SMITH.

As soon as applications for exchange are received, we arrange them under appropriate headings, and insert them in the next issue of magazine. We hope our readers will appreciate the value of this medium for exchanging duplicates, and send on memorandums of such coins as they wish to dispose of—naming the coins they prefer in exchange.

We have received the following proposals from correspondents:

J. P. S., will exchange a good 1813 cent, for a fair 1794 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent.

R. O., JR., will exchange a poor 1809 cent for a fair 1805 cent.

L. M., will exchange an 1811 Half cent for an 1802 Half cent.

T. T. B., will exchange good 1794,

'95, '96 cents for 1794, '95 and '97 Half cents.

S. N., will give a Washington autograph letter for a good Washington cent (small eagle) 1791.

H. C., wants 1856 nickel cent, in exchange for cent of 1793 fair condition.

P. W. M., would give a Washington cent 1791 and \$25, for a Washington 1792 cent, in good condition.

The above parties with one or two exceptions, are collectors of Philadelphia and vicinity, and we propose to negotiate the exchanges, with any of our readers, in want of coins named. Rubbings of the pieces forwarded on application, and none but genuine coins, etc., will be allowed (unless otherwise arranged by parties to the exchange) to pass through this office. All letters must be addressed, Mason & Co., 50 N. Tenth St. Phila.

BOUND VOLUMES C. & S. C. MAGAZINE.

We would call the attention of our subscribers wanting bound copies of Vol. 2nd, to the fact that we only bind sufficient volumes to fill orders, at \$2,50 per volume. Application should be made at once.

THE RANDALL COIN SALE.

The following letter has been sent to the *American Journal of Numismatics* in reply to a complaint written by Edward Cogan, Esq., wherein the Randall Coin Sale,—its aiders and abettors,—are pretty severely criticised. As *our bidders* represent the largest amount purchased at the sale, and were entirely satisfied with all coins bought, and have expressed their satisfaction by letter to us, we feel it due to call attention to the article written by Mr. Cogan, and printed in the November number of the above named journal, as also our reply; that

"notes may be compared" for future reference. As Mr. Cogan's letter has appeared in print, and our reply, if printed in the *American Journal of Numismatics*, could not possibly reach our subscribers before the beginning of a new year, we insert an exact copy for the reader's perusal, while the matter is fresh, and capable of easy elucidation:

Philadelphia, Nov. 30th, 1868.

PROF. CHAS. E. ANTHON,

Editor, *Am. Journal of Numismatics*,
New York.

Dear Sir: Our attention has been called to a communication in the November number of your journal entitled "THE RANDALL SALE IN PHILADELPHIA," over the signature of Edward Cogan.

As this article rather injuriously reflects upon us as Managers of said Coin Sale, we ask the privilege of making a few corrections upon statements which have been doubtless, *hurriedly* and *unwittingly* penned by our old, and honored friend, Mr. Cogan. That Mr. C., was dissatisfied with the catalogue of the Randall sale, we have the most positive evidence, from his own hand, in a *private letter* written us before the sale, and we also know, very positively that his dissatisfaction was not caused entirely by the "over description" of the coins in the late sale, but arose from another and most important cause, which, although written us in a *confidential* communication, and we have Mr. Cogan's permission to make full use of the "idea," we do not think proper at present to make known; but, suffice it to say, that the reasons given by Mr. Cogan, to us, why he did not purchase the full amount of his orders, were certainly good ones, (not connected with the condition of the coins,) and would have offended any honorable business man.

Mr. Cogan in complaining of the de-

scription of the coins in the Randall Catalogue, is very vague and indefinite. He tells us the "1794 Dollar was not up to the description," but neglects to point out the discrepancy. In describing the rare dollars, how softly and smoothly, and we might say, *swiftly*, he glides over and omits the fact that the 1838, '39, '51, '52 and '58 dollars were *beautiful, brilliant proofs*, without a blemish on their glistening and glittering faces. So, too, in dealing with the half-dollars, he says, "the finest piece was the 1852," and this half dollar was only catalogued as "very fine," while there was at least a dozen unblemished *brilliant proof* half dollars in the series. Some of these latter pieces came out of proof sets purchased at N. Y. sales, and were remarkably beautiful.

Again, Mr. C., in speaking of the quarters, is very meagre and unsatisfactory. He leaves the reader to infer that there were no silver quarters that could strictly be termed proofs, while, on the contrary, there was a dozen brilliant, untarnished proof quarter dollars. He also quotes, as an example (we presume) of the ridiculously low prices the 1793 cents realized, the following "No. 375, \$1.25." He does not tell the reader that the number quoted reads as follows, "375, 1793 Cent, Ameri, Poor, Very Rare." In the name of numismatic wisdom, is that coin *over described*? We would take a bushel of the poorest of the poor Ameri's at the price realized at the sale. Neither did your correspondent in giving the figures the 1799 cents brought, have the courage to say that *somebody* depreciated the value by expressing to buyers, before the sale, a doubt of the genuineness of the piece. We do not wish to take too much space by following Mr. C's, remarks categorically, and will say, before turning a period, that there is a slight mistake in the following line, italicised by Mr. C.,

"*it was uncirculated for so rare a coin,*" which we find near the close of our worthy friend's letter. What we said, when speaking of the "INIMICA TYRANNIS"* coin (which was really and truly sharp and very fine, but had the slightest, just the slightest infinitesimal part of a hair—say horse-hair—of a touch on the most prominent part—the head of the eagle) was this, "that it had been customary with all persons cataloguing collections, to omit the mention (on coins very near unique) of a spot so indistinct that a microscope would scarcely make the defect observable, and such excessively rare coins in this conditions were usually described as uncirculated."—This remark, or the substance of was it, addressed aloud to all present at the sale, and if Mr. Cogan recalls the subject he may readily see the error which he has unwittingly committed.

The Half-Disme of 1792 was catalogued as follows, "*Believed* to be the finest offered at public sale." Mr. Cogan says "*Not* the finest *ever* offered at Auction by a good many," and yet he must put down the truth telling figures *Twenty-four Dollars*, as the price it brought! We think Mr. Cogan would be somewhat puzzled to find a "good many Half-Dismes," if all the auction sales of coins that ever occurred in the U. S., were collected, and as to finding "many" of this excessively rare coin, in as fine condition, or one that realised as much money as the one in the R. sale, the idea seems to us rather preposterous, we may be mistaken, however.

Yours respectfully,

MASON & Co.,
50 North 10th St,

*In Mr. Cogan's account of the sale, he terms this coin, the "NON DEPENDENS STATUS,"—rather conclusive evidence that his communication was *hurriedly* penned.

COLLECTING & COLLECTORS.

BY CHAS. G. LELAND.

No. IV.

ARMS.

Weapons and armor formed beyond all question, the first subjects of collection as objects of association and art. The trophies arranged by the ancients on the fields of battle and over tombs ; the souvenirs of old contests and of pride in the deeds of certain ancestors, induced the grouping and preservation of such articles, so that this kind of collection appears to have been almost instinctive with man in all countries in every age. The Good Old English Gentleman was probably not much of a virtuoso, but

His hall so old was hung around with
pikes and guns and bows,
And good old halberds which had served in
time against old foes.

The graceful forms in which weapons may be arranged must have had an influence in inducing their collection. A shield in the centre, with arrows and straight swords radiating from it, crossed spears and helmets, and above all a full suit of armor, make really magnificent ornaments for a hall. So great has been the increase of such collections of late years that the manufacture of *fac similes* of ancient weapons has become quite a large business.

Shields are made of ordinary sheet iron, with lions or other heraldic ornaments rudely hammered up in relief and burnished or gilt, while battle-axes, maces or swords are manufactured of "cartonpierre," which seems to be a composition of paper and plaster. These imitations are extremely accurate and elegant, and are sold for a very low price.

The droll scenes which take place at the breaking up of such collections by

auction have formed subjects for many a written sketch and painting. George Robins, brandishing a lance, and 'crying, "Going, gone," reminds us that the first auctions in old Rome were held under the shadow of a spear stuck in the ground, the shaking of which, as mentioned by—was it Juvenal?—induced Meister Karl, in one of his early and forgotten sketches, to claim it as the first allusion to Shakspeare.

The writer once saw a splendid collection of arms broken up in a much less orderly manner than by auction. It was in Paris, during the memorable three days of February, 1848, when the revolutionists broke open the Musée Cluny and carried off the weapons of the Middle Age which it contained. One bumper of a gamin broke my heart with envy as he flourished a mighty morgenstern, making the spiked points of its ball whiz in the air. I had often admired it in the glass case. Never was honesty so severely tried. Fancy, oh reader, a fervent lover of such antiques seeing Cellini's daggers and Venetian broad swords, carved ivory and Damascened hilts, carried off by the mob, and not laying hand to the harvest!

At the taking of the Tuileries, shortly after, I witnessed a still more striking serio-comic scene. Thousands of people rushed into the court; they hurrahed, embraced, kissed, wept, danced, and rolled on the ground for frantic delight that the Government had been overthrown. The schoolmaster had been made to run for his life, and the boys were taking a benefit. Amid these delirious-delighted thousands was one wild-looking fellow who, after putting on armor and stealing a mediæval lance at the Cluny collection, had taken one of the royal horses, got gloriously drunk on the King's wine,

(I plead guilty myself to having had a pull of Maco that morning from the same stock), and without saddle or bridle was riding madly about at right or wrong angles, raising the *diable a quartre* generally. When I think of that day and close my eyes, that cavalier on a rampage, amid shouting thousands—shot and blazing guard-house—plundered kitchen—*vive la liberte* and rolling out of wine barrels—invariably re-appears. It was a stupendous outburst—a grand historical spree, dear reader, one worth ten years of common, dull existence—and that free-lance was its type and centre.

“*Aux armes, citoyens!*” I thought it was well sung while they plundered the Cluny, as also my friends went through a gun-shop—which by the way was the quickest piece of work I ever witnessed. It was all long, long ago—and was good fun while it lasted.

COMING COIN SALES.

It is with unfeigned pleasure we announce the prospect of an increased number of public sales. Two sales are in course of preparation in this city; while in New York city there are two more in prospective! Four sales within the next three months! This is indeed good news for the patient and toiling seekers after fresh coins to complete their cabinets.

A prominent coin dealer, we understand, has a \$10,000 collection of coins under manipulation for public sale, and we would whisper in the mildest possible manner (in the ear of the enthusiastic numismatist) that many of the coins in the latter collection are so fine that in the language of the aforementioned coin dealer, “they will make the hairs of coin collectors stand on end.” If this is the case, look out for the sale of the “Diadem of Gems.” Can this be

the “Clay Collection?” than which there is not a finer series of U. S. coins in the world—scarcely excepting Seavey’s, and ruling Mickley’s entirely out, in the estimate. This is our opinion, based only on the report of those who have examined Dr. Clay’s cabinet, and a thorough examination of the catalogue. We are anxiously awaiting “Woodward’s next Semi-Annual Sale.” It is now over one year since our friend W. had his ever memorable sale of the Mickley Collection. After Mickley, what? Why, *Clay*, to be sure. Next month our readers shall have all the points we can gather in reference to coming sales.

AUTOGRAPH SALES.

We hear of two Autograph sales, one in this city, and the other in N. Y.—both to occur early in 1869. We are unable to be more explicit, as the parties preparing the materials are not decided upon the date of either sale.

POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD, &c.

The report, now going the rounds of the press “that there are but 1200 different kinds of postage stamps in the world,” is incorrect, as we have personally examined 3000 varieties, and fully believe there are many more. Can any of our readers give us the correct number in use, as far as known to the public at large? The press of the country is very weak upon the subject of Philately, Numismatology, and kindred sciences. As a general thing, a local newspaper will devote more time and space to the ploughing up or discovery of an old English Farthing, of the last century, than to the finding of a valuable iron, coal, lead or gold mine in their vicinity, merely out of curiosity at the discovery. What difference to them between a Farthing and a rare Colonial? Both

have the head of George the 3rd, and ergo both are "Bungtowns." It is not the coin discovered that creates the interest manifested by these ignorant reporters of "new discoveries," but curiosity to know *how it came there*. A cent, is a cent to them, and worth only what it will buy at the corner grocery. Oh, if they would only study the history of the coins, and enjoy with us the indescribable pleasure of reading the past through every line, figure and feature of the common copper coins of the world.

Charles H. Morse, of Vineland, is the owner of nearly forty thousand autographs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

New Haven Ct., Nov. 21st, 1863.
MESSRS MASON & Co.

Gents :—I would be much obliged, if you would inform me in the columns of the magazine why there were no cents issued in 1815. I have heard a good many stories why none were issued, but have not believed them. In the Yale College Library, they have a collection of coins, among which is a U. S. Cent 1815 very fine one, I think it is spurious, as none were issued in that year. Yours,

R. A. MERCUR.

[Answer will be given in full next month. Received too late for elaborate comments.—ED.]

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT.

(Continued.)

		Unused \$ cts.	Used \$ cts.
1859.			
3 pfennige, reet	rose	8	
3 " "	green	8	4
½ groschen, "	black		
1 " "	rose		5
2 " "	blue		5
3 " "	yellow		5
1861.			
1 grosehen, rect,	light rose	8	3
2 " "	dark blue	10	3
3 " "	brown	15	3
10 " "	green	35	10
Envelope Stamps.			
1857.			
1 guten grosehen, oval,	green	25	20
1 silb, " "	rose	25	10
2 " " "	blue	25	10
3 " " "	yellow	40	10
1859.			
3 grosehen, oval,	yellow	30	15
1862.			
1 groschen, oval,	rose	5	3
2 " "	blue	15	8
3 " "	brown	20	8
Local Envelope Stamps.			

BUGLE HORN,

Unused
\$ cts.

Used
\$ cts.

½ groschen, circular, green 10

HORSE.

½ grosehen, circular, green 6

HOLLAND.

Adhesive Stamps.

1852.

5 centimes, reet,	blue	15	8
10 " "	red	15	5
15 " "	orange	30	5

1865.

5 eentimes, rect,	blue	15	8
10 " "	red	15	5
15 " "	orange	30	5

HONG KONG.

1862.

2 cents, rect,	brown	10	5
8 " "	lemon	25	10
12 " "	blue	30	10
18 " "	lilae	50	12
24 " "	green	60	15
48 " "	rose	40	15
96 " "	dark-slate	1 50	20

1863.

4 cents, reet,	blue-green	20	10
6 " "	mauve	20	5
30 " "	vermilion	50	12

INDIA.				1864.			
Adhesive Stamps.							
1854.							
		Unused \$ cts.	Used \$ cts.			Unused \$ cts.	Used \$ cts.
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, rect,	red		15	1 centesimo, rect,	green	3	1
$\frac{1}{2}$ " "	blue		15	Essays.			
1 " "	red		15	1863.			
2 " "	green		15	2 cent. rect,	various colors	25	
4 anna, oct,	red		18	JAMAICA.			
1862.				Head to Left]			
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, rect,	blue	10	4	1 d, rect,	blue	8	4
1 " "	brown	12	3	2 d " "	rose	12	6
2 " "	yellow	16	3	3 d " "	green	14	10
4 " "	black	16	3	4 d " "	orange	28	5
8 " "	rose	18	3	6 d " "	lilac	25	6
Newspaper Stamps.				1 s " "	brown	40	10
8 pies, oct,	lilac	15	6	Arms.			
Envelope Stamps.				3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d " "	blue		8
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, circular,	blue	25	10	3 d " "	violet		8
1 " "	brown	25	12	LIBERIA.			
IONIAN ISLANDS.				6 cents, rect,	pink	50	15
1 d, rect,	yellow	10		12 " "	blue	75	20
2d " "	blue	15		24 " "	green	50	15
4 d " "	lake	25		LUBECK.			
ITALY.				1859.			
1856.				$\frac{1}{2}$ schilling, rect,	violet	8	4
5 centimes, rect,	green	8	3	1 " "	yellow	10	5
10 " "	brown	15	4	2 " "	brown	18	6
20 " "	blue	12	5	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "	rose	25	8
40 " "	red	18	3	4 " "	green	35	15
80 " "	yellow	25	3	1863.			
3 lire. "	golden	70	10	$\frac{1}{2}$ schilling, rect,	green	5	3
1863.				1 " "	orange	8	5
15 centimes, rect,	blue	25	4	2 " "	rose	15	6
1864.				2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "	blue	20	6
5 centimes, rect,	slate-green	5	3	4 " "	brown	25	8
10 " "	orange	10	3	1864.			
15 " "	blue	10	3	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ schilling, oval, red.	brown	10	5
30 " "	chocolate	12	3	Envelope Stamps.			
40 " "	rose	25	3	1863.			
60 " "	lilac	25	3	$\frac{1}{2}$ schilling, rect,	green	5	3
2 lire "	scarlet	35	8	1 " "	orange	10	5
Unpaid Letter Labels.				2 " "	rose	17	6
10 centimes, oval,	yellow	10		2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "	blue	22	8
Newspaper Stamps.				4 " "	brown	25	8
1 centime, rect,	black	5	2	LUXEMBOURG.			
2 " "	black	8	4	1852.—Head.			
2 " "	yellow	5	3	18 centimes, rect,	black		10
2 " "	brown	5	3	1 silb groschen,	rose		15
				1863.—Arms.			
				1 centime, rect,	buff	3	
				2 " "	black	5	
				4 " "	yellow	6	

INTERESTING TO ANTI-
QUARIES.

The old Washington House, at Stamford, Conn., now being torn down, has brought to light many ancient curiosities. Among the relics already found are nineteen copper coins belonging to the reigns of the English Georges or their predecessor, Anne, not one of them coined since this century began; also thirty-seven other copper and nine silver coins, many of them too old to tell the story of their origin or their use. Among the silver coins is a piece whose history begins with the fifteenth year of Elizabeth's reign, only ten years less than three centuries ago, and a third of a century before a white man had traversed the realms of the old Rippowams in Stamford. Another very interesting relic is a shilling shinplaster, printed in red and black ink. In one corner is the British coat of arms, and it is worded as follows:—"This Bill of One Shilling Proclamation, is emitted by a Law of the Colony of New Jersey, passed in the fourteenth year of the reign of his Majesty King George the Third," dated March 2, 1776. On the reverse side it bears the imprint of "Isaac Collins, Burlington, in New Jersey, 1776," and the ominous sentence, "Tis death to counterfeit." It is surrounded by an ornamental border, which looks remarkably rude and clumsy in comparison with the workmanship of the present day.

COIN SALE.

On Monday, Dec., 14th, Messrs Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Clinton Hall, New York, offer for sale a collection of Books, Autographs, Coins, Medals, MSS., and Engravings. We have received a catalogue of this sale,

and find on examination that about 500 lots of American cents, colonials, medals, and Foreign pieces, are offered without full description. Condition of the American coins is not given, and we can only advise our readers to send to Auctioneer for catalogue, and then follow our example—attend the sale in person.

A RARE COIN.

A Concord (N. H.) paper says: "Mr. C. P. Baker, of this city, showed us to day the old Spanish fourpence, ninepence, and twenty cent pieces, all in excellent condition as regards the date and cleanliness of the impression. Though the sight of the silver was gratifying, yet a piece of copper was the gem of the collection. It was a cent, larger and thicker than the old "red cent," with the head and name of George Washington on the face. On the back is a shield with fifteen stars on one half and as many stripes on the other. An eagle, with a laurel wreath and arrows forms the crest. The inscription on the back is "Liberty and Security." On the edge of the coin is the motto, "An asylum for the oppressed of all nations." This coin was ploughed up at Dartmouth, Mass., and sold by the rustic finder for a small sum in New Bedford. Of this coin but few were struck, as Washington objected to his image being on money. Mr. Baker has been offered \$50 for it.

[Sell it, Baker, by all means and send \$3 to us, and get a duplicate, warranted genuine. It is not generally known that the Washington Liberty and Security coin was originally intended as a two pence piece, comparing in weight and size exactly to the two pence piece of England—coined and circulated about the same period—say

1795 to 1799, as the exact date when the Washington piece, above described, was struck is unknown, but supposed to have been coined at the same time the thin, or one cent Washington Liberty and Security, viz: 1795. Many Numismatists term these Washington pieces, medalets.—ED.]

AUTOGRAPH SALE.

Since writing a paragraph on Sales of Autographs, we have received the catalogue of O. T. Keeler's Collection, Columbus, Miss., to be sold by Messrs. Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., New York, December 7th, and following days, commencing at 7 P. M. There are some eleven hundred lots to be disposed of, which will consume the best part of four evenings in the sale.

Our Autographic readers can get a catalogue by writing to auctioneer. There are some very rare letters in this collection, which is the result of over 30 years, close application and labor.

THE "GEM" COIN SALE.

There will always be "grumblers" at every Coin Sale; a class who examine, critically, every piece catalogued "very fine," "proof" or "uncirculated," in the hope of being able to discover some little blemish or tinge of a blemish on the surface of the coin, and woe betide the unlucky author who perpetrated the written description of the coins. At the Randall Coin Sale it seems there was present some "fault finder" who has expressed dissatisfaction at the terms used in describing coins. The word "gem" seems to have been a bugbear to some dissatisfied attendant at the late sale, and another objects to the word "uncirculated" in toto—the latter being of those *literal* translators, who think that the sole act of taking the coins fresh from the dies, and passing it to another,

forever settles the question against the use of the term "uncirculated."

Of one thing, we feel assured, the sale was a success, and every collector thus far heard from expresses unqualified satisfaction with the coins purchased at this sale.

INTERESTING INTERVIEW WITH WASHINGTON.

AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER FROM JOHN MARSHALL TO JAMES K. PAULDING.

"RICHMOND, April 4, 1835.—Sir: Your favor of the 23d of March was received in the course of the mail, but I have been confined to my room, and am only now resuming my pen.

"The single difficulty I feel in complying with your request arises from my repugnance to anything which may be construed into an evidence of that paltry vanity which, if I know myself, forms no part of my character. To detail any conversation that might seem to insinuate that General Washington considered my engaging in the political transactions of the United States an object of sufficient consequence to induce him to take an interest in effecting it, may look like boasting that I held a more favorable place in the opinion of that great man than the fact would justify. I did not, however, think that this, perhaps, fastidious feeling would justify a refusal to answer an inquiry made in terms entitled to my sincere acknowledgements.

"All who were then old enough to notice the public affairs of the United States recollect the arduous struggle of 1798 and 1799. General Washington it is well known, took a deep interest in it. He believed that the real independence, the practical self-government of our country, depended greatly on its issue—on our resisting the encroachments of France.

"I had devoted myself to my profession, and, though actively and zealously engaged in support of the measures of his administration in the Legislature of Virginia, had uniformly declined any situation which might withdraw me from the bar. In 1798 I was very strongly pressed by the Federalists to become a candidate for Congress, and the gentleman of that party who had offered himself to the district, proposed to resign his pretensions in my favor. I had however positively refused to accede to the proposition, and believed that I could not be induced to change my determination. In this state of things, in August or September, 1798, as well as I recollect, I received an invitation from General Washington to accompany his nephew, the late Judge Washington, on a visit to Mount Vernon. I accepted the invitation, and remained four or five days. During this time the walk and conversation in the Piazza mentioned by Mr. Lewis took place.

"General Washington urged the importance of the crisis, expressed his decided conviction that every man who could contribute to the success of sound opinions was required by the most sacred duty to offer his service to the public, and pressed me to come into the Congress of the ensuing year.

"After the very natural declaration of distrust in my ability to do any good, I told him that I had made large pecuniary engagements which required close attention to my profession, and which would distress me should the emoluments derived from it be abandoned. I also mentioned the assurance I had given to the gentleman then a candidate, which I could not honorably violate.

"He thought that gentleman would still willingly withdraw in my favor, and that my becoming a member of Con-

gress for the present, would not sacrifice my practice as a lawyer. At any rate the sacrifice might be temporary.

"After continuing the conversation for sometime, he directed my attention to his own conduct. He had withdrawn from office with a declaration of his determination never again, under any circumstances, to enter public life. No man could be more sincere in making that declaration, nor could any man feel stronger motives for adhering to it: No man could make a stronger sacrifice than he did in breaking a resolution thus publicly made, and which he had believed to be unalterable. Yet I saw him, in opposition to his public declaration, in opposition to his private feelings, consenting under a sense of duty, to surrender the sweets of retirement, and again to enter the most arduous and perilous station which an individual could fill.

"My resolution yielded to this representation. After remarking that the obligation which had controlled his course was essentially different from that which bound me—that no other man could fill the place to which his country had called him, whereas my service could weigh but little in the political balance, I consented to become a candidate, and have continued, ever since my election, in public life.

"This letter is intended to be private, and you will readily perceive the unfitness of making it public. It is written because it has been requested in polite and obliging terms, and because I am willing, should your own views induce you to mention the fact derived from Mr. Lewis, to give you the assurance of its truth.

"With very great respect I am, Sir,

Your obed't serv't,

J. MARSHALL."

NEWLY-ISSUED OR INEDITED STAMPS.

BAVARIA.—A new value will shortly appear—7 kreuzer—which will appropriate to itself the color which now distinguishes the 6 kr. This latter, deprived of blue, will fall back to brown, but we are not informed what change will be made in the hue of the 9 kr. The new stamp was to have been ready by the 1st October, but not having yet seen it, we presume its appearance has been delayed.

BADEN has forestalled Bavaria in this instance, its 7 kr. being already in circulation, and with it a new 1 kr. The general design is the same, but it has been re-engraved, and there are some visible differences in the detail. The word BADEN and the value are in much thicker letters than before; the arms also look smaller. Moreover, the word KREUZER, instead of being written in full, is now represented by the abbreviation KR. The color of the 1 kr. is a clear light green; of the 7 kr., a rather thick deep blue. For further particulars respecting the design, we have pleasure in referring our readers to the specimen which accompanies the present number. The emission of these stamps, we should however add, is, no doubt, caused by the necessity or wish to place the Baden and Bavarian series in accord with the *kreuzer* series of the North German Confederation.

BERGEN.—A new 2-By-post stamp for this town was issued on the 1st July of the present year.

BRUNSWICK.—We learn, with some surprise, that the 4-4ths sgr. of this state has lately been emitted printed in stone on white, as the entire issue having been withdrawn from circulation and suppressed, it is hard to see what purpose the reprint can be put to. Is it issued for the benefit of collectors

only? or had a stock of this value, in its new dress, been worked off just before the closing of the office? We await an answer.

INDIA.—These stamps, which, like the foregoing, we described last month, will, we think, win our readers' admiration. Though only "transmogrified" bill stamps, they have a very fine appearance, owing to the delicacy of their execution, and their tints. M. Moens, together with these, makes mention of an 8 pies lilac, showing the word *POSTAGE* in *small* black letters; and a half anna blue, with the same word in *large* black letters. We presume this word is imprinted over the face of these two stamps, but as they both belong to the ordinary postal series, we do not see the utility of this addition.

ROUMANIA.—It is stated that on and after next New-Year's day the foreign postal service in these principalities will be abolished, the government taking the entire management of the post into its own hands. In consequence, no doubt, of this change, and the necessity of emitting higher values, we learn that stamps of the value of 15 and 50 bani will be issued; and at same time, one of 10 bani. We have no information of the color or type, but presume the latter will remain the same as at present.

WURTEMBERG.—Election stamp. In the opinion of M. Moens, it is not worthy to be called a postage stamp; granted, but it is certainly a curiosity of more value than many which find a place in our albums.

MEXICO.—From the Belgian magazine we learn that the old half real black on chamois has been recalled into currency; it has the marginal inscription in gothic letters. In addition he chronicles the emission of an entirely new series, comprising the following values:—

6 cent.	black on chamois.
12 "	" on green.
25 "	blue on flesh.
50 "	black on yellow.
100 "	" on fawn.

Having received notice of this set immediately before going to press, he had no space for description of the design, which therefore stands over till next month.

Since this was written, and at the moment of going ourselves to press, we have received a specimen of a new Mexican stamp—we presume one of the series referred to by M. Moens,—and hasten to interpolate a description.

But for the notice in *Le Timbre-Poste*, so poor is the execution of this stamp, we should have been ready to pronounce it spurious. It is not always possible to decide off-hand on the mode of engraving of a stamp, as extremes meet, and impressions from a fine wood-block and a coarse steel-plate approach very nearly in appearance; but we hardly think we can be wrong in judging the stamp before us to be no other than a wood-cut. The design itself is by no means bad; in the centre of a lined circle, about the size of that on the French stamps, is the full-face portrait of some worthy unknown to us,—possibly, however, Jaurez himself. The face is that of a middle-aged man, and has a pleasing, intelligent expression, which is enhanced by a high and well formed forehead. The circle containing this figure overlaps the side border, extending, in fact, to the outer edge; in each corner are appropriate ornaments; and in the upper and lower margins, the inscriptions, which are in dark letters on a shaded ground. The upper margin contains the word MEXICO; the lower the value—in the stamp before us, 50 CENT. The impression of this value is in black on yellow; and the perforations which surround the stamp are probably the finest

specimens of the perfect kind—that in which distinct circular holes are punched out. On again examining our stamp, we find the name of the state, as in the preceding series, at the side in gothic letters, but very faintly impressed.

NEW GRANADA.—A stamp lately discovered for this republic. Its employment is the same as that of the well-known vignettes, which it resembles in size, viz., to cover and so seal the backs of letters: but this new type is only placed on official epistles. It is printed in black on a lined blue paper, and the inscriptions are surrounded by a border composed of typographic designs, the size of which is indicated by the double line frame.

PERU.—A correspondent of ours informs us he recently saw a specimen of the embossed 1 dinero of Peru printed entirely in green, imperforate, and post-marked, LIMA, 13, AGO '868. Both *Le Timbrophile* and *Le Timbre-Poste* alluded to this stamp, but neither are able to give any explanation of its reappearance under an altered guise. The latter suggests that it has provisionally re-issued, and this is probably the case. The fact of its being printed in green leads us to think that the stock of the 5 centavos being exhausted, this stamp has been re-issued to represent that value, until the completion of a new supply. It may, however, be, as a correspondent in Valparaiso suggests, that the return of this stamp into circulation is the work of a new government, unwilling to allow the creation of its predecessor to remain current. This a correspondent also states that he has heard a report of a medio peso, rose on carmine, also of the old type, being in use.

SPAIN.—The following amusing paragraph appears in the Paris correspondence of the *Times*, of 21st ult. "It appears that many of the postage stamps

that have recently arrived in Paris, on letters from Spain, had the Queen's head *punched out of them*, so that Her Most Catholic Majesty will soon be out of print as well as out of place." The people must indeed be enraged against their Queen, when, forgetting what is due even to her sex, they proceed to "punch her head;" and as they hold her in such deep aversion, we may anticipate that the present design, even in a mutilated state, will not long remain current.

UNITED STATES.—Through the courtesy of an esteemed correspondent, we are enabled to give our readers the following intelligence. The contract for furnishing the government with postage stamps for the next four years has again been awarded to the National Bank-Note Company of New York. New designs have been adopted for all the stamps, as follows:—

The 2-cent stamp represents a post-boy riding at full speed, in illustration of the fact, that this stamp is mostly used for dispatch letters.

On the 3-cent is a finely engraved locomotive, surrounded by lines of lightning, indicating the speed with which letters are carried.

The 5-cent stamp bears a faithful portrait of Washington.

The 10-cent stamp has an excellent microscopical copy of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, hanging in the rotunda at Washington..

The 12 cent stamp, mostly used for foreign postage, has a picture of a steamship.

The 30-cent stamp, a copy of a painting of the surrender of Burgoyne, which hangs in the rotunda of the national capitol.—*Eng. Stamp Col. Mag.*

BOOK SALE.

Philadelphia.—Horace Smith's collection was sold at Thomas & Son's

Rooms on Friday, Nov. 20th. Good attendance and fair prices realised.

New York.—Charles Edwards, Esq.'s private library was disposed of Nov., 20 and 21, at Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co's Rooms, Clinton Hall.

YOUR PHIZ; IF YOU PLEASE!

We are forming a Numismatic Photograph Gallery, with a view of making copies (*group*) for the use and reference of Coin Collectors. We call upon every *good looking* numismatic hero, or those not favored with beauty, to send us a photographic representation of their features, with address endorsed thereon. We have now about 25 fine, noble looking specimens of the *genus, numis*, and wish to increase the collection to a round 100, when we propose publishing a photograph chart or plate—for framing, copies of which will be furnished to our subscribers. The value of such a picture cannot be questioned, and we hope our readers will see the motive, which induces us to initiate this matter in the proper light, and lay aside all diffidence, and send on a *Carte de Visite*—plain copies desirable for copying. How much of interest will be manifested, when Smith, Jones, and Brown, purchases rare, or unique coins at a public sale, when the possessor of the picture can look at the group of faces and see what sort of looking gents Brown, Jones, and Smith are. Besides this little advantage, how important the picture, when we look upon the chances for correspondence with Smith, Jones & Brown, and the numismatic exchanges *that* correspondence will lead to. Send on the Photographs, and aid us in forming our "Constellation of Gems," for future generations to admire, and whose glorious numismatic deeds we fondly hope some portion of coming generations may emulate.

MASON & CO.'S CHEAP COIN PACKETS!

Having received a large lot of U. S. Cents, Half Cents, Colonial and Foreign Coins, we have adopted the PACKET SYSTEM, to enable collectors and beginners to select such dates and special coins, at such prices as desired. In sending for *Coin Packets*, it will only be necessary to specify the number and value.

The coins will be correctly described in the following schedule, and can be returned if not answering the description; or exchanged for others, at the option of the sender:

COIN PACKETS,

Securely sealed in muslin-lined envelopes for mailing, prepaid in full.

U. S. CENTS.

Packet.		Condition.	Price.
No. 1	contains 1793 cent, very rare,	Very poor.	\$ 50
2	" 1793 cent,	very fair.	1 50
3	" 1793 cent,	very good.	3 00
4	" 1794, '95 and '96 cent,	good.	1 50
5	" 1794, '95 and '96 cent,	extra good.	2 50
6	" 1797 and 1798 cent,	very good.	50
7	" 1799 cent, extra rare,	very poor.	2 00
8	" 1799 cent, extra rare,	very fair.	5 00
9	" 1799 cent, extra rare,	very good.	10 00
10	" 1800, '01, '02 and '03 cent,	very good.	1 25
11	" 1804 cent, very rare,	fair.	1 50
12	" 1804 cent, very rare,	very fair.	2 50
13	" 1804 cent, very rare,	good.	5 00
14	" 1805, '06 and '07 cents,	poor.	25
15	" 1805, '06 and '07 cents,	fair.	50
16	" 1805, '06 and '07 cents,	good.	1 50
17	" 1808 cent,	fair.	25
18	" 1808 cent,	good.	50
19	" 1809 cent, rare,	poor.	50
20	" 1809 cent, rare,	good.	1 50
21	" 1810, '11 and '12 cents,	poor.	25
22	" 1810, '11 and '12 cents,	very good.	1 00
33	" 1813, '14 and '16 cents,	good,	50
24	" 1817 to 1820 inclusive,	very good.	40
25	" 1821 to 1824 inclusive,	good.	50
26	" 1825 to 1830 inclusive,	very good.	30
27	" 1857 cent,	very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents.

U. S. HALF CENTS.

Packet.		Condition.	Price.
No. 28	contains 1793 half cent,	poor.	1 50
29	" 1793 half cent,	good.	3 00
30	" 1794 and '95 half cents,	fair.	50

Packet.		Condition.	Price.
No. 31	" 1794 and '95 half cents,	good.	1 00
32	" 1797 and 1800 halfcents,	fair.	30
33	" 1803, '04, '05, '06 and '07,	very good.	50
34	" 1808, '09 and '10,	very good.	35
35	" 1825 to 1829 inclusive,	very good.	25
36	" 1832 to 1835 inclusive,	very good.	25
37	" 1849 to 1851 inclusive,	very good.	15
38	" 1853 to 1857 inclusive,	very good.	25
39	" Set half cents from No.28 to 39,		3 00
40	" 1802 and 1811 half cents,	very fair.	3 00

COLONIALS.

No. 41 contains	Connecticut and New Jersey cent,	good.	25
42	" Virginia and Massachusetts	good.	1 00
43	" Vermont and New York,	good.	1 75
44	" Nova Const , 2 varieties,	good.	1 00
45	" Louisiana R. F.	good.	1 00
46	" Rosa Ameri. Penny,	fair.	2 00
47	" do do	good.	3 50
48	" do halfpenny,	fair.	1 00
49	" do do	good.	2 00
50	" Franklin Cent,	good.	75
51	" Washington 1783,	good.	50
52	" Washington 1791,	poor.	3 50
53	" Washington 1791,	good.	5 00
54	" N. A. Token, 1781,	good.	50
55	" Pitt Token, 1776,	fair.	1 25

PATTERNS.

56	" 1856 Nickel,	good.	1 00
57	" do	very fine,	1 25
58	" do	proof.	2 50
59	" Indian Head, 1858 nickel,	good,	1 25
60	" do do	proof.	1 50
61	" Flying Eagle, 1855 cent,	fine.	1 25
62	" 1854 no stars cent,	fine.	1 75
63	" 1836 silver dollar,	extra good.	5 00
64	" 1863 Two cent piece,	proof.	5 00
65	" do different,	proof.	5 00

FOREIGN COINS.


No. 66	" 12 different coins of Europe,	very good.	50
67	" 15 do do	very good.	1 00
68	" 10 do do	extra fine,	1 50
69	" 5 Roman coins,	good.	1 00
70	" 5 silver foreign,	good.	50
71	" 10 do	good.	1 00
72	" 25 do large and small,	good.	5 00

STORE CARDS.

Packet.		Condition.	Price.
No. 73	" 10 different cards,	good.	35
74	" 10 "	fine.	50

MEDALS.

75	" 3 Washington Mint Medals,	proof,	1 00
76	" Full set Maryland Colonial Paper Money,		1 25
77	" do Penna. do do		1 00
78	" do N. J. do do		1 50
79	" do Impeachment Tickets,		50
80	" 25 different Rebellion Tokens,		50
81	" 10 do Political Medals,		1 00
82	" 5 do Indian Arrow Heads,		1 25
83	" 10 do Confederate Notes,		1 00

 All the above sent by mail free of postage. Prices furnished, and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Packet Lists corrected Monthly.

COIN SALE.

It is rumored that this city is to have another coin sale sometime during the present winter.

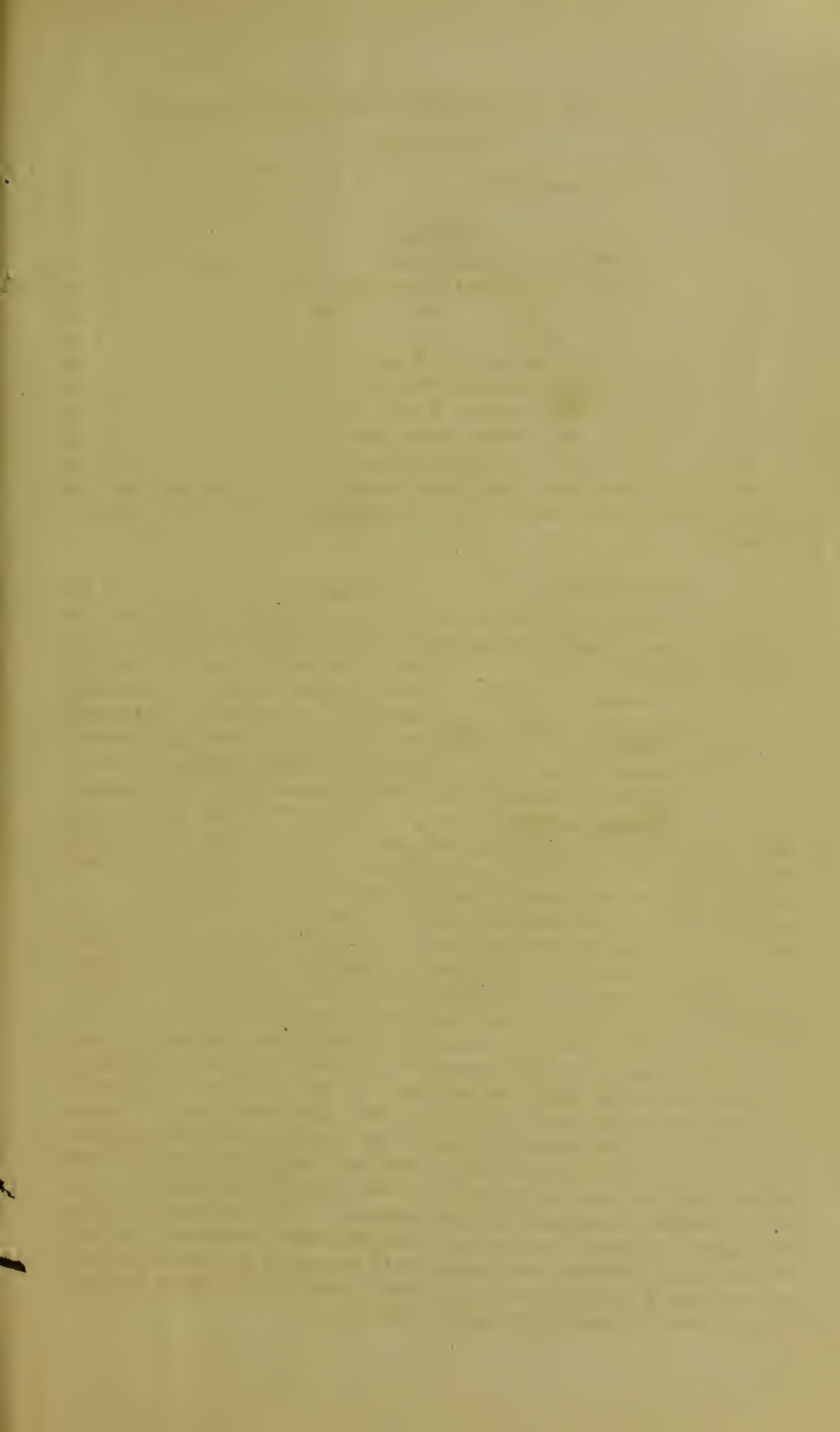
CONCLUSION OF VOL. II.

With this number, or combination of numbers, ends our second volume. Who is with us for another year? This is the momentous question with us, and we feel confident it will be answered favorably by all who have the success of numismatics at heart; and we doubt not that our Patrons will continue their names as supporters of the organ of numismatics in America; the organ of no clique, the friend of all engaged in the good work of elevating science to its place among men. The rich and poor alike receive the same notice at our hands. We welcome and respect the *novice* alike with the *expert*, and all collectors of whatever name or nature engaged in gathering and classifying coins, stamps, books, shells, minerals, paintings, &c., have our earnest sympathy and support. We have many interesting and attractive articles on Autography, Mineralogy, Geology, Botany, Conchology, Philately,

Numismatology, &c. prepared for the next volume, in addition to which we shall complete the history of medals, the priced catalogue of Mickley's great coin sale (the guide book for numismatists in America,) the history of public coin sales in the U. S. (now in preparation;) the priced stamp catalogue, history of Pattern Pieces and all other unfinished articles. When the 3d volume is completed, it will contain matter which could scarcely be purchased for double the amount of subscription price.

We would advise our subscribers to retain the first volume of this magazine, as it is now out of print, and a complete volume cannot be had from us at any price, unless we pick up an odd volume.

We solicit our subscribers to send early notice of renewal of subscription, as it is absolutely necessary that we should "count noses" before Christmas if we intend launching into expensive cuts, and heavy printers bills—in other words *enlarging* and *illustrating* this magazine. Don't be tardy in this matter, but sit down immediately after perusing this article, and enclose subscription to 3rd volume, commencing January, 1869.



COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS' MAGAZINE.

A few volumes of this Journal can be had as follows
 Volume 1st, unbound, \$3.00. Bound \$5.00
 " 2d, " \$1.50. " \$2.50
 " 3d, (Jan., 1869 to Jan., 1870) \$1.50

COIN PRICED CATALOGUE.

This little book of 16 pages shows the value of Coins in ordinary condition. Also contains a table of the rarity and value of American Colonial Coins. Price 25 cents.

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Containing all the Stamps of the world. Mailed, with a Foreign Stamp (unused) for 25 cents.

Sets of U. S. Cents.

1793 to 1857, good condition, excepting rare dates, \$15.00 per set.

1857 to 1868, inc., Nickel cents, fine, \$1.00 per set
 Half Cents 1793 to 1857, omitting rare dates, \$3.00 per set.

Address all orders for Coins, &c., to

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Packages of 50 different Foreign Stamps.....	\$ 25
" 25 " scarce "	25
" 10 " rare "	50
" 5 " very rare "	50
" 100 assorted common "	25

Stamp Albums, handsomely bound, for 75 cents, \$1, \$1.50, \$2, \$3, \$5 and \$10.

MASON & CO.,
 50 N. 10th Street, Phila.

MASON'S NUMISMATIC WORKS, &c.

(In Press and soon to be Issued.)

Mason's Pocket Edition of American Coins,	\$1.50
" " " U. S. Medals,	1.50
" " " U. S. Pattern Pieces,	1.00
" " " Postage Stamps of the world,	50
" Portable Coin Collectors' Album, 2d ed.	3.00

Send for Circular of Prices and Details.

MASON & CO., 50 N. 10th St., Phila.

COLONIAL PAPER MONEY.

Full sets of Maryland (10 notes),	\$1.25 set
" " New Jersey 4 " rare,	1.00 set
" " Pennsylvania, Delaware, &c.,	1.25 set
Assorted Lots of 12 notes,	1.25 lot
" " 6 " Continental,	1.00 lot

1868 PATTERN

1, 3 and 5 Cent Pieces,

These Pattern Pieces are now ready. Price \$3.25 each.

We learn that the above Coins will be issued in 1869 for general circulation.

At the close of the year 1868 the dies for pattern 1, 3 and 5 cent pieces will be destroyed.

Send all orders to this office.

U. S. IMPEACHMENT TICKET.

Great Relic of the 19th Century.

These tickets are very beautifully engraved, with coupons attached, stamped, numbered and signed by the Doorkeeper of the Senate, and used at the Trial of the President. Warranted genuine, and purchased directly from Washington. As the Government has the plate, they cannot be re-printed. In sets of 4, mailed for 50 cents. Printed in 4 colors, 25 cents each.

50,000 Curiosities FOR SALE.

This is a rare collection of South American Minerals, Petrifications, from 600 to 700 Bird skins, some of which are very rare, Insects. Wet and Dry Preparations, Natural and Artificial Rarities, Indian and Goucho Implements of War, Antediluvian Fossils, Phenomena, &c. Also, Fragments of the Ancient Temples of Athens, and Curiosities in general, together with some 5000 pieces of Foreign Coin.

These articles were collected with the express intention of opening a Museum, and offered a few months ago to the Commissioners of Central Park, New York, for \$100,000; but as the proprietor intends to leave the United States, he will now dispose of the entire collection for \$25,000. \$5000 cash, the balance to be paid in yearly instalments \$2000; or he will close it out in parcels, ranging from \$100 upwards to suit purchasers.

Independent of the above collection, he has upwards of 2000 *very fine* decorative Brazilian Beetles, which he will dispose of at \$12 per hundred or 15 cents each for a less number.

The objects can be seen at his residence.

N. B.—Take the Philadelphia and Reading Cars: Get out at Limerick Station, which is 2½ miles from the place. Address,

Dr. W. W. MORGAN.

Limerick, Montgomery Co, Pa

FOREIGN COINS.

100, (all different,) fine.....	5 00
100 " good.....	3 00
100 " poor.....	2 00

U. S. FIFTEEN CENT NOTES AND

U. S. SHIELDS.

Shields magnificently engraved by U. S. Treasury Department, and containing 39 Postage and Fractional Currency, including two 15c notes, red and green backs. Also containing all the red backs and written Signatures. Prepared for framing.

Price \$6.00.

RANDALL COIN SALE.

Priced Catalogues of this Sale, which occurred Oct. 28th and 29th, mailed for \$1. Mickley Priced Catalogue, \$3.

MASON & CO., 50 N. 10th St., Phila.

SUBSCRIBE TO VOL. III.

Subscribers are solicited to send in their names as soon as this number of the Magazine is received.

END OF VOLUME II.